LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

May 3, 1972

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[Note to Editors: see graphics section for photos to accompany this story.]

WHAT DO AZALEAS AND NAPALM HAVE IN COMMON?
NORFOLK FESTIVAL HONORS NATO

NORFOLK, Va. (LNS)--Festivities, parades, banquets and bouquets were the order of the day in Virginia's largest city during the annual International Azalea Festival from April 25 through 30. Or at least they were supposed to be--as admirals, generals, diplomats and politicians joined with Norfolk's wealthiest big shots in this years' version of the yearly tribute to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), whose Supreme Allied Command Atlantic is located in Norfolk.

This year, however, there was an added highlight to the occasion. Angry protests, aimed primarily at NATO's support for Portuguese colonial wars in Africa, disrupted the five-day long festivities on several occasions. And more than 1000 demonstrators, many of them students at a nearby black college put an early end to the parade, which is the gala event of the week of celebration, by throwing refuse and a few rocks at the float carrying this year's festival queen.

Every year the Azalea Festival follows the same pattern: lots of press coverage of all the trivial details of the preparations, a Festival Queen who is always "the daughter or close family relation of a prominent (rich) leader of her country", liquor and parties for Norfolk's social elite, an a heavy emphasis on the military which is still the most important thing going in this Navy town.

Each of the member countries of NATO sends its own Princess to the festival, and a specific NATO ally is selected each year as the most honored nation. This year the Honored Nation was Portugal, and the festival queen was Maria Teresa Sanchez, a 22-year-old economics student from Lisbon University, and the daughter of the Portuguese Minister for Public Works and Communications.

Maybe a few years ago, this could have gone over just like the first 18 Azalea Festivals. But recently people around the country and in Norfolk have begun to learn about the wars Portugal has been waging in three African colonies since the early 1960's. And they decided to do something about it.

Close to 50,000 leaflets were distributed in the city, meeting an overwhelmingly favorable response from people who had already begun to wonder whether the festival was worth what the city has to shell out for it every year. The Virginia Weekly, a revolutionary paper from Charlottesville, explained:

"At the same time that the NATO brass is wining and dining Virginia politicians and businessmen in Norfolk, there will be napalm falling on the tribal villages of several African countries -- NATO napalm, Made in U.S.A. and dropped on African villagers by the Portuguese military.

"For several years NATO has been at war in Africa. The purpose of the war is to stop the movement of the African people to throw out Portuguese colonialism in the countries of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands...

"While on the surface the war appears to be between Portugal's dictatorship and the African people, it would have been over long ago were it not for the tremendous support that Portugal (the poorest country in Europe) receives from NATO...

"The vast majority of NATO aid to the Portuguese comes from the United States. Reported U.S. military aid to Portugal since 1961 comes to about $400 million, but this figure is clearly too low, since most of these expenditures are not openly reported.

"U.S. supplies for Portugal include naplam, fighter and bomber aircraft, and Boeing 747's and 707's for troop transports. Portuguese deserters have stated that U.S. army personnel and guerrilla warfare experts have provided Vietnam-like training for the Portuguese army at bases in West Germany (another NATO member). In 1970, when the Portuguese began using defoliants (to destroy the food crops in Angola), U.S. exports of herbicides to Portugal were four times higher than in 1969.

"The reasons for U.S. interest in backing Portuguese colonialism are obvious. More than thirty U.S. corporations have large investments in the Portuguese colonies. These include Gulf Oil, Reynolds Aluminum, Bell, General Electric, and many others."

The Weekly concluded by urging people to take part in demonstrations against NATO and the Festival. But even they were surprised by the size of the turnout.

From the moment the Portuguese Festival Queen arrived in the city, protestors plagued the ceremonies. Fifty demonstrators were at the airport to greet her, and their strenous chanting--"Portugal out of Africa, NATO out of Norfolk"--drowned out a round of welcoming speeches. During the next three days, demonstrators turned up at the official opening ceremony of the festival, at a visit to a vocational center and at a civic luncheon addressed by Nixon's Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, George Romney.

But the climactic event of the week was the parade scheduled for Saturday morning. About 1,000 people showed up to demonstrate, as many as 60% of them black. For two hours before the Queen's float arrived (as the last in the parade), they kept up a storm of chants. Police tried to rush the queen's float past the area where demonstrators had gathered, but they didn't make it. The crowd of protestors ran along with the float for two blocks, tossing wads of papers and a few other handy objects after it. At the end of the second block, the float was halted and the frightened queen was whisked back to the safety of her hotel by parade officials.

At about the same time, the marching band from predominantly Black Booker T. Washington High School was arriving in front of the reviewing stand. Students at the school had earlier voted to boycott the march, but the band had been pressured into participating. Now, in front of all the ambassadors from NATO countries and all the city big-wigs assembled on the

reviewing stand, they stopped marching, dropped their instruments on the pavement and walked away. Norfolk's mayor told reporters later that he had been "humiliated" by this action.

Despite the presence of large numbers of Norfolk police, state troopers from Richmond, cops from the nearby town of Chesapeake, and an incredible number of plainclothes cops and narcotics agents, only one person was arrested at the demonstration. Samuel Winston, a student at Norfolk State, was busted for "throwing a missle at a moving vehicle," and is being held under $10,000 bond for this misdemeanor.

The Mayor has also tried to put responsibility for the demonstrations on the shoulders of a black city councilman who is running for re-election and a black minister who had urged blacks not to participate in the festivities.

But while they're trying to find a scapegoat for this year's protests, people have already begun to talk about the possibility of organizing a much bigger demonstration for Azalea Festival 20. That is, unless NATO decides that the azaleas grow brighter somewhere else.

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(Thanx to the Virginia Weekly and Ron Bunch for this article.)

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COLLEGE PRESIDENTS MOONLIGHT IN BIG BUSINESS

NEW YORK (LNS)-- "Academic freedom" and "the sanctity of the University community" have long been arguments used by college administrators to denounce campus demonstrators. But many administrators are not so divorced from the real world as they would like their students to be.

Take for instance Rev. Theordore Hesburg, president of Notre Dame University, who recently was appointed to the board of Directors of the Chase Manhattan Bank. Or Stanford University's Wallace Sterling, who is director of both Kaiser Aluminum and Shell Oil.

And there are more. President Goheen of Princeton is director of the Equitable Life Insurance Co. and MIT's head cheese serves on the board of General Motors. General Electric claims the president of Purdue, Fred Hovde, and Penn State's top man, Gaylord Harnwell, is a dirctor of the Penn Central Railroad.

Harvard Business School president George Baker sits on the board of Lockheed Aircraft--a leading war contractor.

And one time Columbia University president Grayson Kirk (famous for calling cops on campus to bust up the 1968 Columbia rebellion) is now sitting pretty at Mobil Oil, IBM, and Consolidated Edison.

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(Thanks to Alternative Features Service for the info in this short.)

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THE HO CHI MINH TRAIL -- ROAD TO THE FRONT: THE STORY OF DRIVER-FIGHTER CAO DUY THUAN

by John Spragens

Pacific News Service/LIBERATION News Service

[*Editor's note: Communications between North Vietnam and the liberation movement in the south depend on a web of roads running through Laos known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Seriously wounded soldiers and civilians from many parts of the South are evacuated to the north for special medical care, and since Saigon cut off mail service between the north and south, the trail is the only way for mail to travel between the two zones.*

The trail is also used effectively to transport military supplies to the front in the south. The current offensive shows that even despite incredibly heavy U.S. bombing, drivers along the routes can get through. This story gives some idea of how they do it.]

SAIGON (LNS) -- "We estimate," wrote Secretary of the Air Force Robert Seamans Jr. in a self-congratulatory mood earlier this year, "that only 15 per cent of the supplies entering the trails reached South Vietnam or Cambodia." The trails (popularly known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail) are "a series of tortuous mountain and jungle roads" which wind through Laos into South Vietnam.

Over the years, Vietnamese truck drivers and carriers have engaged in a mechanized guerrilla battle against the whole array of U.S. technology to maintain this "tortuous" communications and supply route between north and south. Often drivers have to run a gauntlet of plastic plant sensors, tiny pellet mines, screaming jet attacks, high-level B-52 runs and U.S. commando raids. Parts of the Trail have been reduced, according to an eyewitness from Agence France Presse, to "impalpable dust."

A series of articles recently published in the North Vietnamese press reflects the fact that, like the rest of the Indochina war, the supply war along the trails in Laos has been an incredibly dangerous, hard-fought guerrilla battle -- a game of cat and mouse on an enormous scale.

A typical account from this battle appeared in a recent issue of To Quoc (Fatherland), the monthly magazine of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. It tells the story of "driver fighter," Cao Duy Thuan, and how he brokethe "ten trips a month" barrier.

With courage, inventiveness, and a thorough understanding of the route they drive, Thuan and his assistant driver have succeeded many times in making the trip along the stretch of road their unit drives in one night instead of the expected three. Sometimes, though, despite all their efforts, there are losses.

"There was one time," says the article, "when Thuan's truck was rushing along a slope and waves of American planes swooped down. Bright blue flames sprang up on all sides. Twenty millimeter shells and flames surrounded the truck in a ring of steel. Calling on all his experience, now accelerating, now braking, Thuan avoided the enemy

shells and managed to drive down a twenty to thirty kilometer (12 - 19 mile) long section of the road.

"But as he was nearing tunnel M, the back of Thuan's truck was hit by a shell. The truck body burst into flames. With a deafening roar, the shells in the truck began to explode. Thuan had to stop the truck and, with his assistant driver, scoop up dirt to throw on the exploding shells. But it was useless. The battalion's truck unit was about to catch up. If his truck was not moved at once, it would leave the whole unit as an exposed target, and would block the road if it burned out.

"At this decisive moment, with shells exploding continuously on the truck bed, Thuan told his assistant driver to wait for the approaching convoy. In spite of the danger, driving the truck by himself, he sped off towards a stream. When the truck sank into the water, the mass of flames was put out and Thuan was able to save the remaining shells, assuring the safety of his whole transportation unit.

"'Whatever the situation, Cao Duy Thuan has showed himself to be a courageous, cool-headed, clever driver-fighter,' said one of his comrades.

"Once enemy planes were chasing his truck, pouring shells down at it. Bombs exploded in front, and then behind. Because he knew the road, he realized that after that exposed stretch there would be a fork. He accelerated, churned up a blinding cloud of dust behind him. The enemy shells fell like rain into the billowing dust.

"Suddenly he slowed down again and turned off into a hidden road. Carried on by a breeze, the dust drifted off down the main road, decoying the planes with it. When the enemy had gone away, Thuan drove back to the main road and continued on his way.

"One thousand five hundred days and nights of experience in the field of fire, rolling safely down seventy five thousand kilometers (over 12,000 miles)," concludes the To Quoc article, "on this road which bears the name of our great Uncle Ho, Cao Duy Thuan certainly deserves to be called an outstanding fighter of the Vietnam People's Army."

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J. EDGAR SPEAKS OUT

"President Nixon has changed materially. He's much more extroverted today than when I first met him. That's good. I think he's doing an excellent job as President, despite the brickbats he gets thrown at him from some of the media. He never loses his cool. He's done an excellent job on economic matters...He knows how to negotiate with people without giving up principles."

"In the FBI, we have never countenanced any rough stuff, never any 'third ' I believe psychology plays a large part in dealing with criminals. Psychology and integrity, even with criminals."

--both these quotes were taken from an interview with the FBI's top dog in the January, 1972 issue of Nation's Business

[Note to editors: For background see packet #416.]

INDIANS FIGHT TO WEAR LONG HAIR IN OKLAHOMA SCHOOL; LOCAL GI PROJECT HARASSED

LAWTON, Okla. (LNS)-- Lawton, Oklahoma is a city of about 60,000 in southern Oklahoma. It's population is perhaps doubled by the presence of GI's stationed at nearby Ft. Sill. It also has a sizeable number of Native Americans whose families used to own the land where the city now stands.

Since September the Indian community has been holding demonstrations to protest the expulsion from school of three Indian brothers--George, Donny, and David Wise--for wearing braids. Their mother, Frances Wise, has been leading the fight to allow them to wear braids. Her forbears met Coronado when he entered south central Oklahoma in the 1540s. Her great grandfather ran away from a U.S. Indian school rather than comply with the regulation to cut his hair.

On April 10, the students won one round of the fight and lost another.

Charges were dropped against 9 of 17 arrested for trespassing and failure to obey a police officer at a demonstration protesting the school-board's ruling. The other 8 were convicted and plan to appeal their $150 fines.

The same day, three more Indian youths were expelled from school for long hair.

At the trial, before an all-white jury, one of the arresting officers mistakenly identified a Chippawa Indian spectator (who had just arrived from Minnesota that day) as one of the demonstrators.

Scott Cade, one of the people convicted and fined, has two other charges against him. An ex-GI and a member of the GI project that puts out Barrage, an anti-war, anti-brass paper, Cade has been a target for police harassment. He has been convicted of dealing marijuana and sentenced to seven years (currently on appeal) and was also charged with felonious assault in a strange case involving an admitted FBI agent who was trying to plant grass in the Barrage staff house.

Legal funds are needed by the Native Americans. Send what you can to either Frances M. Wise (NARM), 1413 H. St., Lawton, Okla. 73501.

* * *

Lawton's GI project has born the brunt of much harassment in recent months. In mid-April tear gas grenades were thrown into the project house two nights in a row.

On the first night, April 15, two police cars were parked right in front of the house watching as a man ran from the house after hurling a gas grenade through the window. They made no attempt to arrest him.

The next night no police responded to a call from the Barrage house following another tear gas attack forcing someone from the house to drive into town to find them. Their car was followed to the police station and back by cops, but the police made no effort to help.

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(Thanx to Barrage and the San Antonio War Resisters League for the info in this short.)

[Note to Editors: See packet #417 for a story on the Vietnamese students takeover of the Saigon consulate in New York City]

VIETNAMESE STUDENTS COME TO SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY TO PROTEST A.I.D.

CARBONDALE, Ill. (LNS)--Twelve spirited Vietnamese-- some taking grave risks--visited America's heartland April 27 to expose and denounce a key link in Nixon's Vietnamization program--the Center for Vietnamese Studies at Southern Illinois University.

The protest demonstrations and teach-ins were nonviolent, as planned. But there were risks, nonetheless, since five of the Vietnamese visitors are on scholarships provided by the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.). And the Vietnamese Center, financed by a $1 million A.I.D. grant, is one of their "benefactors'" touchiest pet projects.

Before arriving here, the five A.I.D. students --making public their anti-Thieu, anti-war feelings for the first time--were cautioned by an A.I.D. representative of the possible consequences.

"He said that while we were on American soil, of course we were free to say anything we wished," said Vu Quang Viet of San Jose State College. "But he said that the Americans couldn't prevent the Thieu regime from taking punitive action."

Of course, Viet added, A.I.D. and the rest of the American government could withdraw its aid from the dictator Thieu. But of course it won't-- and that is what the protests are all about: Nixon's Vietnamization program.

The Vietnamese are worried that their American supporters don't understand or emphasize Vietnamization well enough--particularly since the resumption of the savage bombing of the North has reinforced the strong anti-bombing emphasis of the peace movement.

Some of the Vietnamese, though encouraged by the recent offensive, fear that the harshly repressive A.I.D.-financed Vietnamization programs could keep Thieu in power for a while even if the bombing stopped.

Ngo Ving Long, protest co-ordinator and U.S. representative of the National Student Union of South Vietnam explained:

"A central element in the plan to build a strong fascist-type police state in South Vietnam is the range of 'post-war reconstruction' projects sponsored by U.S. A.I.D. (like those supposed to come out of Southern Illinois University)

"A.I.D. has trained and supplied the Saigon regime's combat police, service police, and secret police. A.I.D. has constructed more than 1,000 prisons in SouthVietnam and supplied the wherewithal for 'pacifying' the countryside by carrying out wholesale relocation of the population.

"Today there are more AID-built and AID-advised prisons in South Vietnam than there are schools, pagodas and churches combined. And they are being fully used. In fact, about 300,000 political prisoners are being kept in AID-financed 'tiger cages' --many of them tortured with the full knowledge and participation of American advisers.

"Standard tortures, against female political prisoners," Long added, "have included 'chain-raping', electric shocks administerd by attaching electrodes to the reproductive organs, insertion of live non-poisonous snakes, soft drink bottles, sticks, and electric bulbs into the vagina, branding and burning the inner thighs or vulva with lighted cigarettes or heated irons and hanging up by the thumbs or toes."

(Many of the prison administrators had been trained in earlier A.I.D. programs at Southern Illinois University--which had visions of inheriting Michigan State's discredited "Vietnamese Studies" programs.)

Unfortunately there was not much of an audience for Long's remarks. The Midwest media yawned at the event--all but a few ignored a Chicago press conference. Only the New York Times and UPI were on hand to record the event for the straight national media.

Only about 150 of S.I.U.'s very revolutionary-looking but very pacified 20,000 students were on hand. And they were out-shouted and out-demonstrated by about 30 pro-American Vietnamese students from S.I.U.

It was a unique American demonstration of "Vietnamezation" in action. The A.I.D.-fattened bellies of the Center's American "advisors" jiggled in glee as they watched "their" Vietnamese insult other Vietnamese. The counter-demonstrators relied heavily on American slogans.

"This is the Vietnamese flag," said one of the counter-signs, displaying the red bars of the Saigon flag. "Love it or leave it."

"We Too want peace," read another, "but peace with justice"

And yet another said "Give me liberty or give me death."

"Oh how it saddens us to see our countrymen opposing their own people," said Le Anh Tu of Bryn Mawr College. "It pains us deeply to see them so manipulated, so Americanized, so brainwashed, by our racist enemies."

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"THE ENVELOPE PLEASE...":
ARMY AWARDS NEW MILITARY CONTRACTS

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- Want to keep on top of the latest war contract awards? Unlike the Oscars and the Emmy, they aren't televised, but here's the latest dope from the Wall Street Journal:

Bulova Watch Co. received a $3.7 million Army contract for artillery shell fuses.

Eastman Kodak Co. was awarded a $17.1 million addition to a previously awarded Army contract for operation of its Holston ammunition plant in Kingsport, Tenn.

General Dynamics Corp. was the proud recipient of $14.4 million from the Air Force for F-111 aircraft parts. And the Army gave an extra $3.8 million to AMF Inc. on an old contract calling for parts for 500-pound bombs.

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PLAN AHEAD

ROCKETS TO THE MOON VS. ROCKETS TO VIETNAM

by Maralee Gordon
The Chicago Seed/LIBERATION News Service

CHICAGO (LNS) -- "Apollo 16 Heads Toward Moon" and "We Walk on Moon Again." Once again astronauts' hijinks have pushed news of U.S. defeats in Vietnam to the bottom of the front page or even to pages two, three, or four in some daily papers

If you have the vague notion that this has happened before, you aren't the only one. In fact, a close examination of the dates of Apollo flights, made by a reporter for the Chicago Seed, reveals that moon news has bumped coverage of "enemy" offensives and news of antiwar actions off the front pages of daily papers many times.

The first "coincidence" seems to occur with Apollo 12, which left Cape Kennedy on November 14, 1969 and returned to earth 10 days later. On November 12th, antiwar protesters gathered in Washington for a three-day moratorium of marches and actions. Although over 500,000 persons participated, they received minimal coverage. But the three military officers received full coverage, including exhaustive reports on their family life and interviews with their wives and kids.

Was this merely a coincidence? Maybe so, but let's look a little further. Apollo 13 blasted into space and into the newspaper healines April 11, 1970. The next day small items in some papers began mentioning South Vietnamese troop movements near the Cambodian border. Due to a Saigon-imposed news blackout, most U.S. papers had nothing more to say about the U.S.-sponsored invasion of Cambodia until after Apollo 13 returned to earth, April 17th.

As Apollo 13 landed on the moon in 3-inch headlines, a moratorium focusing on war taxes which brought demonstrators to IRS headquarters in Washington received almost no press coverage.

Apollo 14 left earth January 31, 1971 and returned February 9th. While America was bombarded with astronaut trivia, you may recall that the "Secret War in Laos" was made official, as Saigon troops invaded.

Apollo 15, which traveled between July 26 and August 7th, 1971 accompanied no significant war escalation as far as we know.

But as we are all aware, Apollo 16 blasted off in the midst of the American bombing of North Vietnam and crushing defeats for the Saigon army and Nixon's Vietnamization policy in the south; Vietnam and Apollo 16 vied for headlines in the straight press.

The Nixon administration has effectively timed the Apollo flights to divert attention away from American invasions of Cambodia and Laos, U.S. bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong, and the gathering of antiwar protesters in Washington. Is it all coincidence?

Be on the lookout for Apollo 17.

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ANTI-WAR PROTESTERS INVADE BRUNSWICK CORPORATION

by Bernie
LIBERATION News Service

CHICAGO (LNS) -- If you've ever heard of the Brunswick Corporation, it's probably because they're one of the world's largest manufacturers of bowling balls and equipment. If so, you'd have been as surprised as most of the people working in their national headquarters in Chicago were when forty people invaded the offices to protest Brunswick's role in the war in Indochina. It seems that aside from making bowling balls, Brunswick has pulled down contracts totalling around $3.2 million from the Defense Department for manufacturing war material.

They make Flameweapons, Rodomes (part of the nose on a plane which holds electric and computer equipment for deflecting missiles and picking up patterns such as human smells, which the computer then tells other mechanisms to bomb) and Skitter 5000-1 Grenades (used in riot control here and abroad). Brunswick research and manufacturing of war production goes on in Lincoln, Nebraska; Deland, Florida; Marion, Virginia and Sugar Grove, Virginia.

Entering the office, the invasion force broke down into small groups for guerrilla theater to attract the attention of startled officer workers. "I am a B-52 bomber," one person in each group intoned, holding aloft a balloon filled with soybeans, "and my load is a fragmentation bomb guided to its target by equipment made by Brunswick Corporation." Popping the balloons, the soybeans scattered and the rest of the invaders fell to the floor screaming, victims of the bomb.

"We're not here to oppose you," they told the office workers, "but the company and its bosses." People then spread through the office to talk person to person with clerical workers about the bombing, Brunswick's complicity in the war, and the need to fight back by sabotaging war production.

"Some of the work that passes by our desks is necessary to continue the war," the leaflets read, "so we can help stop it. The bosses can't expect our work to be error free, but remember -- it's where accidents are made that counts: spill ink or coffee on files; lose important mail and files, mispell or leave out words or numbers, leave magnets on tapes, punch extra holes in computer files. These are a few of the things we thought of -- whatever your job is,it's easy to learn new mistakes."

General reaction from the office workers was friendly as the invaders spread through the two main floors of Brunswick's offices. Some workers wanted to know simply "what we can do." Supervisors and executives repeatedly asked people to leave, but were unable to enforce their commands as it became increasingly clear that secretaries wanted to talk with the protesters. So the company called the cops, who arrived shortly.

Police let three representatives meet with company officials to negotiate the possible showing of a slide show on the air war to Brunswick workers -- a demand that the company flatly turned down. Having previously decided to avoid arrest if possible -- the main point being to talk to workers -- the

protesters left.

Elevator construction workers - on strike outside the Brunswick building -- expressed their sympathy and support for the action "There's more crooks in City Hall, the Civic Center and Brunswick than there are in jail," one striker said. "And we should put them in jail instead. We should take down that flag (pointing to an American flag across the street) and put a strike sign up there instead. You should smash all their windows (Brunswick). Then they'll listen -- it's no good to just talk to them."

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[Note to Editors: see graphics section for photos.]

CARLOS FELICIANO REVERSES GUILTY PLEA

LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)--"I have never been sentenced anywhere for a crime that has not been love of my country. The only crime that I have committed always in my life, and I am willing to commit it again, if that is called a crime, is to love my country."

May 3 marked the end of two years since the time that Carlos Feliciano was arrested. The original charge was 40 bombings and attempted bombings including the New York Public Library, the RCA building and an army induction center. In addition the District Attorney made insinuations about an underground terrorist organization and connections with a foreign government.

"But there is a question that people have to ask before they go any further," Carlos says. "Why among all the Puerto Ricans in this country that are into politics was I the one chosen to be arrested? So then they have to go back into my background."

Carlos was a member of the Nationalist Party during his years in Puerto Rico. He actively participated in the struggle to gain independence from the United States together with many others including Albizu Campos, the founder and leader of the "independentista" Nationalist Party.

In 1950, during one of the biggest uprisings that Puerto Rico has seen in its struggle for independence, Carlos was arrested and jailed until 1957 when, after his release, he followed the way of many Puerto Ricans and emigrated to the United States.

In the United States he settled down, got married and had five children, holding down two jobs in order to survive.

After such a long time, the shock of his imprisonment hasn't stopped him from speaking out against the injustices perpetrated in Puerto Rico by the United States.

"I consider that Puerto Rico is a country where the U.S. military has intervened since 1898 and that the U.S. entered in a violent manner that year. They invaded our territory, bombarded it and assassinated our people. ...The basic laws that govern Puerto Rico come directly from Washington. The information media is controlled by U.S.-controlled Cuban exiles and at the present time we can say that Puerto Rico is a place for everybody except the Puerto Ricans."

Carlos' history and his outspokenness probably explain why the government decided to use him as their main target. But they have not succeeded because other people stood up to support him. Their appeals and protests finally won Carlos release on $55,000 bail after 17 months in jail.

"In reality, this whole case is a frame up. They are trying to make out of my case a lesson just like they did with the Kent students. They assassinated them to threaten the people so that they would not do the same thing again. The same things are happening with Angela Davis' case and with Father Berrigan's case. Every time that a group of people rise up to protest against injustice they are framed and charges are made up against them."

This seems to be what is happening with Carlos' case right now. At one point recently, the District Attorney in the Bronx offered to drop all charges for the three seperate indictments in the Bronx and in Manhattan. He was ready to put a halt to prosection or seperate sentencing if Carlos pleaded guilty to a minor charge or 'reckless endangerment'-- which says nothing about bombs and, in fact, is used as a last resort catch-all when more specific charges wouldn't hold up in court. (In the pre-trial hearings it became clear that the state's case rests on the evidence of paid police agents, illegal searches and the like.)

Carlos agreed, but soon after, the DA withdrew the offer, presumably under political pressure from elsewhere, and will now settle for nothing less than putting Carlos behind bars again.

In response to the DA's withdrawal of the offer of a lesser charge, Carlos has withdrawn his plea of guilty. He is expected to come to trial shortly.

"Since I've been out of jail I have visited schools and given conferences to explain my case. As a young nationalist I saw Albizu Campos killed in prison. I know part of the Puerto Rican history. I see what is going on and I believe that I have the right to demand my country's independence."

"I know that as Puerto Ricans we have that right and that these rights are something that you don't use or vacilate with. It is something that you take as you see fit. I also think that the struggle in Puerto Rico is all of our responsibility and I will always say, Que Viva Puerto Rico Libre."

Donations to the Committee to Defend Carlos Feliciano can be made to Box 356, Canal Street Station, New York, N.Y. 10003

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FREE CARLOS FELICIANO AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!!!

ELEVEN-DAY "RAY OF SUNSHINE":
QUEBEC GOVT. BLUDGEONS 200,000 WORKERS BACK TO WORK

by Mark Wilson

LIBERATION News Service

"This is the death of unionism as we have known it up till now--but a death which will be followed by a rebirth. Things will never be the same again."

--Quebec Federation of Labor Pres. Louis Laberge

MONTREAL (LNS)--As Laberge spoke Quebec union leaders were being jailed at the rate of six a day, and the ruling Liberal Party was ramming Bill 19 through the legislature--the "loi-matraque" ["bludgeon law"] to force 200,000 striking public service workers back to their jobs on pain of fines totalling more than a billion dollars a day.

For a few feverish hours, Quebec's union movement hovered on the brink of mass civil disobedience, as rank and file strikers gathered in hundreds of hastily called meetings and voted by a majority of 60% to defy the law, if their unions would back them up. But that night, 40 minutes before Bill 19 came into effect, their leaders went on television to tell them to go back to work, on grounds the majority was not enough.

The struggle, they said, would have to continue by "other means." It was the end, at least temporarily, of the most massive--and most politicized--strike in Quebec history.

The picket lines which for 11 days had sealed off all schools, hospitals, courts and government services across Quebec, broke up. And a few minutes later, the midnight shift of hospital workers began arriving for work. One of them, a man in his fifties, tried to explain how he felt:

"Nobody likes a strike; for the last week I've hardly had enough money to eat. But also--well, this strike was like a ray of sunshine for me. Strange? If you worked for $74 a week (before taxes) with no raise in three years, maybe you'd understand what I mean."

* * *

The public service strike was conducted by an unprecedented "common front" of Quebec's three major labor federations, the Confederation of National Trade Unions, the Quebec Federation of Labor, and the Quebec Teacher's Corporation. This new solidarity in itself was a threatening development for a government devoted to making Quebec a safe colony for U.S. and English Canadian capital and to preserving its historic reputation for cheap labor. For example, the General Motors plant at St.-Therese, Que. is where GM plans to transfer much of its Vega production since its U.S. workers revolted against the speeded-up assembly line at Lordstown, Ohio.

Until recently, the history of Quebec's labor movement had been one of frequent rivalry or raiding and infrequent inter-union solidarity. Strikes were fought in isolation, and it was relatively easy for government and business to break them.

In the last few years, however, more and more "common fronts" have been formed at the local level for particular struggles.

To form a common front for the entire public service--12% of Quebec's labor force--was not simple. For the three federations are based in different sectors of the working class and have differing structures and interests. But as the conflict between Quebecois labor and the colonialist capital deepens, unions have found themselves fighting more and more bitter struggles simply to defend their previous hard won gains, and united action became more and more a necessity.

The most important demands of the common front of Government workers was, at first glance, purely monetary: no public service worker should be paid less than $100 a week. The government, trying to portray itself as the tax-payers' protector, called the proposals "beyond reason"--it would bankrupt the public coffers, already-overtaxed Quebecois could not afford it, and anyway such pay was completely out of line with the wages established in the labor market for such jobs. The government was offering across the board increases of about 5% a year--slightly less than the current rate of inflation.

On the ninth day of the strike, the government was forced to admit the real politics behind its position on the demand for $100 a week. At an all-night meeting with cabinet ministers, CNTU president Marcel Pepin asked them point blank: "If we rearranged our demands so that the total cost of wages you would pay would be no greater than in your last offer but everybody got at least $100-a-week--would you settle?" The Finance Minister, who until then had taken no part in bargaining, broke in with a flat no--"because that would completely disrupt the wage pattern for private industry."

The unions freely admitted that $100-a-week made no sense in terms of the "labor market". It did correspond to the income described by government studies as the minimum necessary for the average Quebec wage-earner to live on. "The question is," said Marcel Pepin, "will your policies be based on protecting the profits of capitalist big business or on meeting human needs? That is what our struggle is all about."

As recently as two years ago, neither Pepin nor any of the other top union officials could be heard denouncing capitalism or supporting a political strike. In the past twelve months, all of the labor federations have adopted explicitly anti-imperialist and pro-socialist positions, and after years of silence on the "political" struggle for national independence have begun to take positions on self-determination for Quebec.

The union leaders have not moved radically to the left because they wanted to; they have been forced to, by the worsening conditions of North American capitalism (unemployment among Quebecois, for instance, is over 10%), and by pressure from below.

A week after he was billy-clubbed by police last October, in a demonstration which he later described as "an accelerated course in politics for 12,000 workers," QFL President Louis Laberge began quoting Franz Fanon. Shortly afterward, the

more...

QFL convention adopted a policy document titled "The State: Gear-Wheel of Our Exploitation." The public service strike was both a test and a turning point in this radicalization of the unions, which has been accompanied by great internal ferment and struggle.

The common front fell into important strategic errors in the strike. It did not try hard enough to reach out to the non-striking population (only 40% of Quebec's workers are unionized) to explain the real interests which were at stake. It did not do enough to expose the fact that the government, while claiming to be the defender of the taxpayer, hands out millions of dollars of taxpayers' money to subsidize U.S. corporations like ITT, IBM, and General Motors in Quebec. In the short term, therefore, the state machinery was able to get away with Bill 19, and with jailing a total of 31 local strike leaders for defying back-to-work injunctions at key work places.

In the long run, however, the politically oriented new militancy of the labor movements probably cannot be stemmed. Ironically, the strike did succeed in exposing and isolating right-wing elements in the hierarchy of the labor movement itself, some of whom stepped in at the 11th hour to help sabotage the move toward mass civil disobedience against Bill 19. They are not likely to last long in their posts, for many union meetings across Quebec are now voting to demand their resignations and the resumption of the strike by the common front in defiance of the law.

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WHO DO YOU TRUST?
UNDERCOVER AGENTS ON THE JOB

NEW YORK (LNS)--Pinkerton's, Inc., the company that supplies businesses with uniformed guards, has now jumped into the undercover scene. Pinkerton now rents out plainclothes agents--not the kind that hang out in dark bars or on street corners waiting for big dope deals, but the kind that work right beside you on the job while you file papers or sweep floors.

A form letter ripped off by a "people's undercover agent", from Vice-President, Director of Investigations Henry C. Neville, to prospective Pinkerton clients, spells out the whole thing.

"Wouldn't it be great to be invisible for a while? To be able to walk into any of your departments without somebody whispering, 'here comes the boss'.

"You'd probably find out a lot about your company. What's happening to all that missing inventory, for example. Or why vital equipment always seems to be "down" at the worst possible times. Or how inside information is finding its way to the wrong ears. Now you can do it. With a Pinkerton Internal Survey.

"Simply by authorizing this unique Survey, you can have specially trained Pinkerton investigators act as your personal eyes and ears. In the guise of normal employees, these specialists can quickly spot your biggest profit leaks...So you can plug those leaks fast."

Pinkerton claims that 6000 companies now have their agents sniffing around the job.

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PAIN FOR PROFIT

NEW YORK (LNS)--Headaches probably send people scurrying to their medicine cabinets for relief more often than any other ailment. So naturally there are a lot of medications around trying to corner some of the market. Especially on TV (since watching it is probably the world's best way to get a headache in the first place) the ads seem to chase each other across the screen, each claiming to be the ultimate in headache relief.

The ad man's voice comes across intelligently and sincerely. "Is there any way to improve on Bayer Aspirin to make it stronger? Well, suppose you buffered it, or combined it with other drugs, fizzed it, or tried to find a stronger ingredient and gave it a fancy name. First of all, aspirin is already the strongest pain reliever you can buy. Fizzing would not improve it, the combination and buffering do not add speed or gentleness either. Nothing is faster or more effective than Bayer Aspirin. Even we cannot improve it, though we keep trying."

A little later on another voice just as sincere and intelligent says: "And Vanquish has a unique way of doing it--relieving headaches--with extra strength and gentle buffers. Vanquish gives you extra strength and gentle buffers. It is the only leading pain reliever that does."

Are these conflicting claims true? And if they are true, why is it that Bayer and Vanquish are both manufactured by the Sterling Drug Company?

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[Thanks to So. Baltimore Voice for this short]

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"SIEG IM VOLKSKREIG"
WEST GERMANS MARCH IN VIETNAM PROTEST

MANNHEIM, W. Germany(LNS)--While millions of people marched in cities all over the U.S. the last week in April, the anti-war sentiment in West Germany ran high.

Tens of thousands of West Germans marched in Mannheim and other West German cities April 22 in a renewed upsurge of the German anti-war movement. The march, in solidarity with the new military offensive of the Vietnamese people and with demonstrations throughout the world, united all factions of the German radical left in a large protest action.

The Mannheim march wound its way through the downtown area of the city, halting traffic and Saturday shoppers. The demonstrators chanted "Seig im Volkskrieg" ("Long Live the Victory of People's War").

American GI's stationed nearby wanted to join the demonstration but were prohibited by army regulation. However, Army undercover (CID) agents were there, keeping an eye on things, as passing GI's wave clenched fists at the demonstrators.

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Your May bill should be in the mail in a day or so. Please make a big effort to pay it--we need money badly. No joke.

ANGELA DAVIS DEFENSE SCORES PARTIAL VICTORY

SAN JOSE, Calif. (LNS) -- The defense in the Angela Davis trial scored a partial victory April 25, when an 18-page diary the prosecution believed to be critical to its case was withheld from the jury.

Judge Richard Arnason ruled that the diary contained "much that is totally irrelevant to the issues before this court."

Arnason also ruled out the testimony of a spying San Quentin guard who was going to describe "the close intimate contact" between Angela and George when they met with their lawyers at San Quentin along with Ruchell Magee, Fleeta Drumgo, and John Cluchette.

In his opening statement, the prosecutor called the Marin County courthouse escape attempt a "crime of passion" which Angela Davis planned because of her "irrational love" for George Jackson. Prosecutor Albert Harris had to show 1) that the escape attempt was a plot to free the Soledad Brothers, and 2) that Angela loved George Jackson. A courtroom procession of prison guards and police failed to establish that anything was said about the Soledad Brothers on August 7, 1970 the day on which a shootout at the Marin County Courthouse resulted in the death of a judge and three of his abductors.

After the Soledad fiasco, Harris moved on to Angela's passionate love for George. He planned to use private correspondence, particularly the diary, and the spying guard's testimony.

The defense pointed out that both the diary notes and the meeting July, 1971, occurred almost a year after the escape attempt. They could have no possible relation to the charges against Angela, and could serve only to prejudice the jury.

Defense Attorney Leo Branton pointed out, "The prosecutor kept a defendant in jail almost a year, and did not discover the evidence which was going to make his case until August of 1971 [when the diary was found in George Jackson's cell] -- more than one year after the crime was committed and more than 10 months after she was in custody."

Judge Aranson ruled both pieces of evidence inadmissable, but allowed Harris to read three other letters to the jury. These letters were written in June 1970 from Angela to George.

James McCord, former FBI agent and now a lawyer in Los Angeles, testified that he took two of the letters from Angela's apartment. On August 17, the FBI entered Angela's apartment with a warrant to arrest her for "crossing state lines to avoid prosecution." The defense pointed out that it is not common to look in Los Angeles for someone who has left California, and that the August 17 search was a fishing expedition, during which the FBI looked through everything. They returned on August 18 and took whatever looked interesting.

Captain Charles Moody, guard at Soledad and central figure in the frame-up against the Soledad Brothers, told how he took the third letter from confidential correspondence between George Jackson and his lawyer, John Thorne.

The defense moved that all the letters be suppressed because they were illegally seized. They lost that motion, but won the more important dispute over the diary.

After this ruling, the jury was called in, and Harris began to read Angela's private letters to George Jackson -- letters which were supposed to prove her "irrational passion" for him. Harris sweated heavily, stopped to wipe his brow, and stumbled on in an expressionless monotone, but many observers thought the letters spoke out strongly for the defense.

None of the letters the prosecution has introduced into evidence make any reference to the preparations for the courthouse kidnapping of August 7 for which Angela is charged. They are political letters dealing with the activities of the Soledad Brothers Defense Committee and Angela's feelings of love, admiration, and solidarity for George Jackson.

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[Thanks to Karen McConnell for this story]

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SPACE AGE ADS AT ASTRONOMICAL PRICES

NEW YORK (LNS)--We all know that advertising is a big business in this country but sometimes it's beyond belief. Coordinated Communications, Inc. now has a campaign for the Speidel watchband which reaches new heights of extravagance and phony relevance. Speidel plans to spend more than $1 million on two TV commercials showing the new Thinline wristband floating in space and linking up with a watch.

"Space is the key," according to Ben Colarossi, Vice-President of the agency. "The link-up will be familiar" to the American TV audience which has had a heavy diet recently of real space adventures. Speidel will have to produce its space show without the aid of Stanley Kubrick, who was "too busy" to direct their watchband ad for them.

The "unique" feature of the Thinline watchband is that it is one third thinner than any other watchband that Speidel makes, and can be tied in a double knot. "And that," boasts Colarossi, "is an achievement in itself."

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LET GEORGE DO IT

WASHINGTON (LNS)--With much flourish and fanfare, Housing and Urban Development Secretary George Romney announced in 1970 that he was a good sport and would voluntarily return 25% of his salary to the Treasury "as my personal contribution" to the fight against inflation.

Well, it didn't work--not only did no one join George in his lonely sacrifice, but inflation is still raging out of control. And George, not one to go down with the ship, has quietly restored himself to full pay. --30--

[Note to editors: See graphics section for photos to go with this story]

A WOMEN'S THEATRE GROUP [illegible] IT IS ALRIGHT TO BE WOMAN

by Sandy Shea

LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's note: [illegible] from LNS [illegible] Theatre [illegible] Some [illegible] found [illegible] performance, [illegible] time [illegible] share [illegible].

[illegible] not only [illegible] about [illegible].

It's Alright [illegible] travel [illegible] because [illegible] if you [illegible].

It's Alright [illegible] #2, 312 W. [illegible])

How many times have you stood in a department store dressing room with all those mirrors [illegible]icking each excruciating contortion of your body as you tried to cram it into the latest "little nothing"? Hating your hips or your stomach or your breasts--or all three; trying to keep your cool when the sales lady glides in to see if everything is just fine.

Or maybe you remember your mother tearing you away from a wrestling match with the girl next door to try on a new dress she [illegible] bought for you? It was itchy, hot and tight and the next thing you knew, "I SEE LONDON, [illegible] I SEE ______'S UNDERPANTS."

These and other scenes from the women's lives, some traumatic, some painfully funny--are a powerful and unending source of material for It's Alright To Be Woman Theatre, a group of eleven women who live and work in the New York City area. "Everything we do is from our own lives, our own experiences," explained one woman in the group. And that includes everything from childhood memories, to dreams/nightmares or something that happened on the subway the day before yesterday.

The thrust of their performance is not against men but rather gives you a really positive [illegible] feeling about yourself as a woman. [illegible] are mixed and some are all women [illegible] the group is [illegible] to the women in the audience and identifying with their [illegible]. [illegible] said after the performance that he [illegible] he couldn't [illegible] and [illegible] ed. [illegible] theatre, for one, [illegible].

You get a really good feeling [illegible] women. There is no mystification of "theatre" and "acting". They're [illegible] and scenes they [illegible] mosphere [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] out room to move among the audience [illegible] the floor. There are lots of instru[illegible] flute, drums, accordian, and other [illegible] and [illegible] props.

[illegible] from personal experience is at the [illegible] of everything they do. Take for instance [illegible] of "Sue's Hairy Legs" done cranky style ([illegible] is a kind of hand-operated paper TV-scroll). One day Sue hears the "popular crowd" talking about HER HAIRY LEGS!! Mortified, Sue rushes home [illegible] and dad if she can shave her legs. The [illegible] and the shaver does its work but upon returning to school the next day, Sue discovers [illegible] even with smooth legs the [illegible] still ignores her.

It's Alright To Be Woman Theatre has been together for about a year and a half. They [illegible] the first time through a woman's theatre workshop at the now-defunct Alternate University in New York City. All the women had very different past experiences and varying degrees of familiarity with theatre, but they had all been involved in the women's movement and knew they wanted to do women's theatre--and particularly theatre from their own lives.

One of the first things they did together was to go away on a long retreat weekend: "A kind of expanded consciousness raising session" said one woman in the group. During that time each woman told her life story ("And with eleven of us you can imagine how long that took"). With that much background, they began to act out scenes.

Sharing personal experiences with people you don't know is a hard thing to do. One particularly emotional scene that the group does revolves around telling your mother that you are gay. One woman explained how her mother would react and two other women acted out the scene. A painful thing to tell and act out, and equally as moving to watch.

Each time It's Alright performs, "right-ons" from the women in the audience punctuate every scene. These women give a first-rate lesson of what women's oppression is all about and it's impossible to imagine any woman coming away from a performance untouched by the similarities in her own life. And that is the real strength and success of the group.

Most of the women in the group hold down part-time jobs to support themselves and meet together in workshops three times a week for three hours each. They also spend one evening a week doing a combination of consciousness raising and taking care of all the piled up "business" like correspondence.

Both in the workshops and during performances, the women spend a lot of time on dream and story improvisation. It's a very spontaneous, exciting [illegible] and one that can involve women in the [illegible] woman from the group or the audience [illegible] and slowly describes a dream or an exper[illegible] that she [illegible]. As she tells it, members [illegible] act it out. The woman who [illegible] the [illegible] or one-teller wears a scarf to distinguish [illegible] from the other characters. Incredible [illegible] happen during these improvisations -- women [illegible] meet their seventh grade boyfriends.

A typical It's Alright To Be Woman performance [illegible] clothing and family vignettes. One [illegible]

that is particularly funny depicts a woman wandering around in a department store. She spots a very thin mannequin (played by another member of the group) in a coat and hat lounging in a very dramatic, model-like pose. The shopper takes a similar coat and hat off the rack and tries her hardest to copy the pose, but it's no use. She's the wrong shape, she has the wrong expression on her face, and besides, every time she thinks she has the pose down, she turns to find the model in a different and more outlandish body contortion.

Family vignettes deal with everything from a little girl's trauma at having to accept a new baby into the house to teaching mother how to say "fuck" after so many years of never saying a dirty word no matter what the circumstances. When it finally came out, it was quite a bellow.

Music is an important part of each performance too. A guitar and flute back up many scenes, and there are musical chants that everyone takes part in. One woman in the group also wrote a song called "A Song For My Sisters" and another woman drew a cranky to go along with it with pictures of Harriet Tubman, Emma Goldman, and Rosa Luxembourg, women working and women fighting -- in the Cuban Revolution and at Dien Bien Phu.

In the time that It's Alright To Be Woman theatre has been together, there have been many hurdles. Getting the first performance together was a major one. And there were -- and still are -- varying expectations of what the group should be and do.

Asking for money was difficult at first too. "We had a hard time saying, 'We think we're good enough for you to pay,'" explained one woman. And there are always problems of interpersonal relationships, which their consciousness-raising meetings have tried to deal with. "If you're having problems with someone -- if the group's not getting along -- it shows up in the performance."

Right now, the group is in the thinking stages of putting together a Women's Theatre Manual which would be an attempt to share with other women some of the things they've learned. They're also thinking of holding theatre workshops for women in the area interested in forming their own groups.

Two hours spent watching It's Alright To Be Woman Theatre and you come away with an overwhelming feeling of strength and warmth and good things for the future. And maybe best of all, an understanding that, in fact, it is alright to be woman.

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"AIR WAR" PAMPHLET AVAILABLE FROM PACIFIC STUDIES

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Need facts and figures about the Air War over Southeast Asia for a leaflet, speech, etc? The Pacific Studies Center has just put out a four-page leaflet entitled Air War that lays it all out clearly and concisely. Copies can be ordered for $9 per thousand from PSC, 1963 University Ave. East Palo Alto, Calif. 94303.

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WOMEN'S GROUP CHALLENGES ABC-TV LICENSE ON GROUNDS OF SEXISM

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Channel 7 in New York, flagship station of ABC-TV, one of the country's three major networks, is under attack by the National Organization of Women. NOW asserts that ABC is "the most blatant offender against women" although they added that NBC and CBS are not "beyond review."

In a brief submitted to the Federal Communications Commission, NOW argued that ABC should be denied a renewal of its license on the grounds that it violated three grounds for licensing: "ascertaining the needs and interests of the audience it serves and programming for those needs, fairness in presenting controversial issues, and equal opportunity in employment."

It took the NOW staff two years of watching "tens of thousands of hours of " ABC programming. The resulting brief asserted that "On ABC women are consistently shown as unintelligent, irresponsible, dominated by men, defined by their anatomy and incapable of independent thought and action " Some examples of this sexism were given:

1) Although seven out of eight U.S. medals in the Winter Olympics were won by women, ABC allotted only 40 minutes of air time for coverage while they allotted 2 minutes and 15 seconds to a women's pancake eating contest

2) When the Equal Opportunity Amendment was passed no mention was made on the evening news although a full minute was devoted the next night to the opposition.

3) Roger Grimsby of the local Evening News was cited especially for making "snide comments" about women. For example in March 1970 on the news report on the first celebration of International Women's Day in New York City, Grimsby followed up the coverage with the remark, "And now for another item of trivia."

So far, ABC officials have refused to comment, saying that they haven't seen the brief yet. The FCC has yet to examine the complaint, but the renewal of licenses comes up on June 1, so both will be forced to act soon.

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CLARIDAD, PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY PAPER, NOW AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Claridad, the newspaper of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) now has offices in New York. Besides their regular distribution of the Claridad issue from Puerto Rico, they are now putting out a bilingual issue of the paper

Ever since it started at the end of the 50s in Puerto Rico, Claridad has been the major organ of the independence movement in the island and later on became the same in New York.

For people who don't read Spanish but are interested in news about the struggle of Puerto Ricans on the island as well as in the U.S., the new Claridad is a prime source of information.

Talk to your local bookstore or underground paper about getting and/or distributing Claridad. Then write them c/o PSP 106 East 14 St. New York, N.Y. 10003

ATTICA INMATES ISSUE STATEMENT ON PLANNED "MAXI-MAXI PRISON"

LIBERATION News Service

[Editor's note: Since the day Attica prison was retaken by over 1000 state troopers, sheriff's deputies, national guardsmen and prison guards, almost 80 men have been locked in segregation. These are the people that the prison administration has labeled as "leaders" of the rebellion--people who were photographed around the negotiating table or people who have been in conflict with the administration before.

Conditions in Housing Block Z (HBZ), or segregation, are even worse than in the prison as a whole. Men are locked in their cells 23 1/2 hours a day. "They throw a bowl on the table and you eat in your cell like a dog," said one inmate. Whenever they go see a lawyer or relative, prisoners are strip searched. Legal papers are confiscated. Prisoners are frequently beaten.

On April 24, lawyers for the prisoners in HBZ discovered by accident that everyone in HBZ was going to be split up and moved to other prisons--in an effort to make it harder for lawyers to meet with the men. The inmates themselves have been spending their time preparing their legal defense, and participating in political education--one inmate tells another something who then repeats it to the man on his other side who then passes it on.

Sixty of the men have already been moved or will be moved in the next day or so. The others will follow later. They are all awaiting the Wyoming County Grand Jury which has been meeting since November to decide which inmates to indict for the September rebellion.

It's also expected that many of the men will be transferred back to Attica--where the new maximum-maximum security prison (for "incorrigibles and hard-core revolutionaries") will most likely be.

The following exerpted statement from HBZ is dated April 27.]

Now that the administration has decided to transfer us, 60 brothers from atikka's HBZ (the box), to other punitive segregation units in new york state concentration camps, they are going to remodel HBZ into the first maxi-maxi prison.

It has been seven months since the now infamous massacre took place, where at least 33 brothers were murdered cold-bloodedly by the states' storm troopers. Yet, these brothers were in D block yard to demonstrate against the inhumane medical treatment, the inadequate food, the brutality and racism that we have received from correctional employees, exploitation of our labor, our low wages, etc.

They were not there to be bought off by warden ernest montanye's new policy to "pacify us with psychological tactics", e.g., the announced table games, such as checkers, chess, cards, painting sets, drawing boards, football, basketball and baseball teams along with civilian participants, and the future items like radios and tv's, films, etc. These are not what we want. These are just as bad pacification programs as the lobotomy operations that the corrections officials are trying to force on prisoners.

People, the administration is going to transfer 60 inmates. Their excuse is that HBZ is going to be remodeled into a maxi-maxi prison. There are at least two parts to this move:

(1) an attempt to make our criminal defense difficult and to try to keep us incommunicado from our lawyers and the public;

(2) federal judge john t. curtin ordered an injunction (on paper) against the attikka guards (a tactic which he was very hesitant about, and which he was forced to do through the support of you--the people) to stop all brutality, harassment and torturing of the brothers in attikka, after Sept. 13th. And now that numerous violations of that order have occurred by guards, curtin must hold the prison in comtempt. Then he, as one who is also serving rockefeller, has agreed to postpone the contempt hearings, separate the witnesses and transfer them out. As he sees it, "how can I rule against my fellow piggies if we are both puppets for the same puppeteers?"

People open your eyes and ask yourselves--why the massacre at attikka? Why such repressive tactics at demonstrations? Why the maxi-maxis? Why the heavy distribution of arms to law enforcement agencies? Why the police state in our communities? Why the police patrol of our schools, transportation facilities? Why the sudden gun-control laws for the poor people? Why the inflation, wage freeze and high unemployment? Why are men refusing to fight in Vietnam?

These questions, my people, have one correct and appropriate answer--"The road to fascism is on its course..."

Remember - attikka massacre, cause the same pigs who sponsored it here can bring it to your communities....

In struggle, power, unity, & love,
THE COLLECTIVE BROTHERS IN
ATTIKKA'S HBZ.

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COMING SOON IN THE PAGES OF LNS

In the next packet #432, we'll try to catch up with the most recent victories by liberation forces in Indochina and the most recent actions in support of them in the U.S. There's an unavoidable time lag of a few days in getting information from Vietnam, but we feel it's better to wait than have to rely entirely on the New York Times or Walter Cronkite. We just hope that doesn't leave you stranded for lack of information when you really need it. If so, you can always give us a call and check if we've got what you need.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES OF SOUTH VIETNAM
FOR THEIR GREAT VICTORY AT QUANG TRI

Chinese paper cuts of scenes in liberated South Vietnam. Credit LNS

Photos from It's Alright to Be Woman Theatre.

SEE STORY IN THIS PACKET.

TOP: The woman on the left is coaching her mother, who has just said 'fuck' for the first time in her obscenity-free life.
In the background, on the right you can see the cranky, retired for this scene.

Credit LNS Women's Graphics Collective.

BOTTOM: The three way mirror (you can't see her, but there is another woman directly behind the woman in the center).

Credit LNS Women's Graphics Collective.

TOP: Anti-aircraft guns of the PLAF in Quang Tri Province are trained on U.S. planes and helicopters -- April, 1972

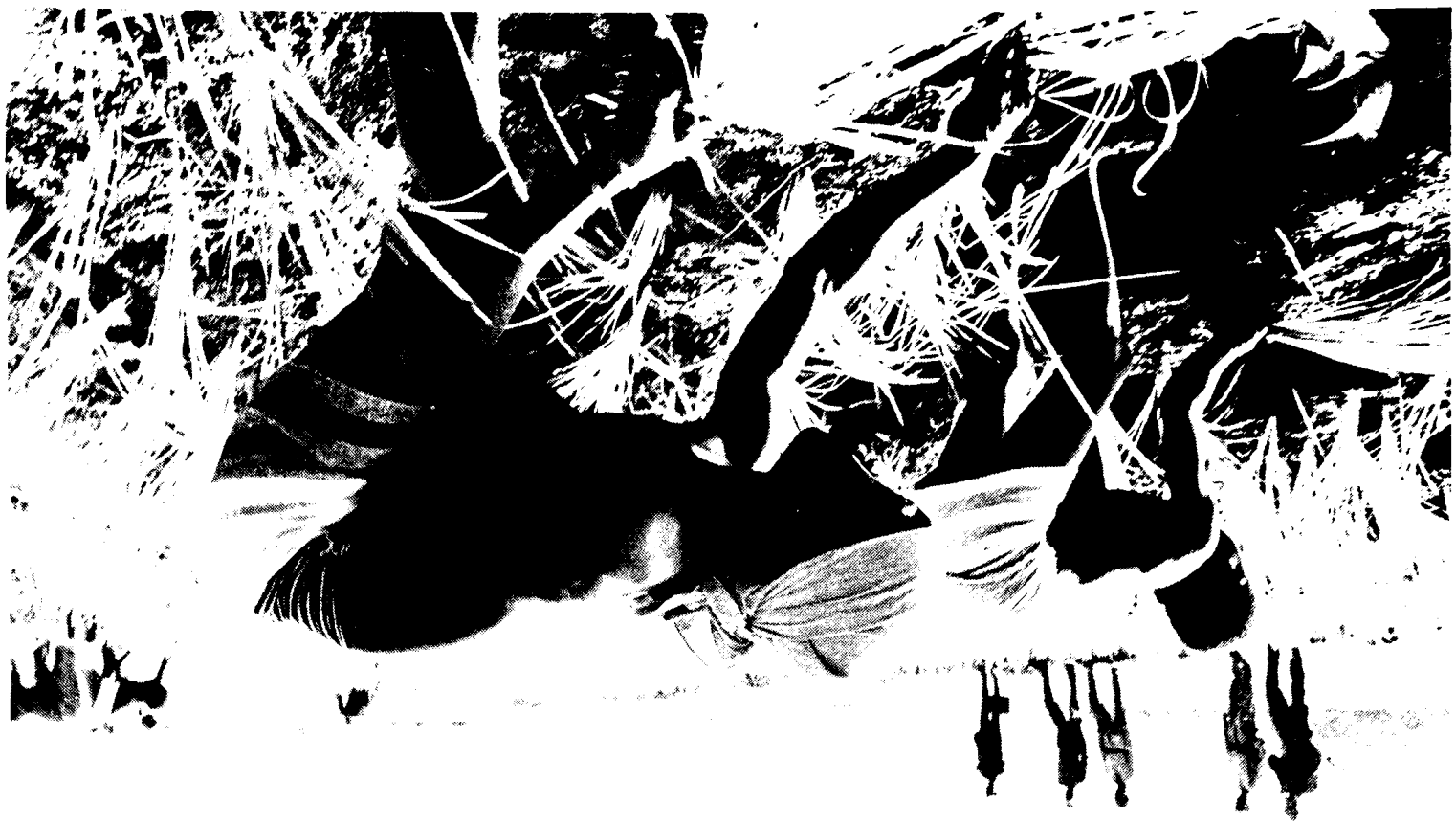
Liberated South Vietnam News Agency/LNS

BOTTOM: South Korean soldiers examine the wreckage of a U.S. Army helicopter, downed near the An Khe Pass in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam, April 28

This photo is a composite of images U.S. news services

TOP: Transport fighters and civilian volunteers unload supplies at the front.
See story in this packet about the Ho Chi Minh Trail.
Credit Vietnam News Agency/LNS

Bottom: Carlos Feliciano, at home in the apartment he shares with his father, wife and six kids.
See story on page 6 of this packet. Credit LNS Women's Graphics Collective.



TOP: Beating swords into plowshares in the '70s. In the liberated areas of Guinea-Bissau, the man is fashioning knives for harvesting rice from pieces of U.S.-made napalm canisters.

Talking about his trade, the blacksmith remarked: "It was very hard to learn a skill under the Portuguese. They wanted us to remain untrained. They even wanted to believe we were incapable of doing skilled work. For instance, one time, I made a very good knife, with a fork at the end and a pretty design on the blade. The local Portuguese administrator told me I could not have made it myself, some Portuguese must have helped me or I must have been looking at Portuguese books. They even came and searched my house for books."

Photo by Andy Mars, Liberation News Service. See story on Page 1.

BOTTOM: Women [illegible] pounding rice.
Photo by [illegible] See story on Page 1.